Message Text

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PAGE 01 RANGOO 01808 190208Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5406

SECRETRANGOON 1808

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: SNAR, BM

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON BURMESE UTILIZATION OF NCAP-PROVIDED AIRCRAFT

REF: RANGOON 1633

1. WITH REGARD TO HOME MINISTER COL. SEIN LWIN'S AGREEMENT (PARA 6 REFTEL) TO CONSIDER OUR REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON GUB UTILIZATION OF AIRCRAFT PROVIDED UNDER THE NARCOTICS CONTROL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, WE PROPOSE TO SEND THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO PEOPLE'S POLICE FORCE DIRECTOR GENERAL U SHWE THAN.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

FURTHER TO THE CONVERSATION MAY 8 BETWEEN HOME AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS MINISTER COL. SEIN LWIN AND AMBASSADOR BEAN, AND PURSUANT TO THE 1974 BILATERAL AGREEMENT ON NARCOTICS CONTROL MATTERS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS, WE REQUEST THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON USAGE OF THE AIRCRAFT WE HAVE PROVIDED UNDER THE TERNS OF THAT AGREEMENT:

A. TOTAL HOURS FLOWN, BY AIRCRAFT TYPE, AND HOURS FLOWN FOR
(1) ACTIVITIES DIRECTLY RELATED TO NARCOTICS CONTROL, SUCH AS

THOSE AGAINST REFINERY INSTALLATIONS, CARAVANS, POPPY SECRET

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FIELDS, ETC.

- (2) ACTIVITIES INCIDENTALLY RELATED TO NARCOTICS CONTROL, ALONG WITH AN INDICATION OF HOW THEY ARE SO RELATED.
- (3) TRAINING, MAINTENANCE, AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS.

B. MAINTENANCE AVAILABILITY RATE (EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE OF AIRCRAFT FLYABLE DURING A ONE-MONTH PERIOD).

C. GENERAL LOCATION OF THE AIRCRAFT.

THIS INFORMATION IS NEEDED SO THAT WE CAN DEMONSTRATE TO THE CONGRESS THAT THE AIRCRAFT ARE BEING USED FOR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THEY WERE PROVIDED, AS STATED IN THE 1974 AGREEMENT, AND THEREBY TO ENSURE CONTINUATION OF THE NARCOTICS CONTROL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR BURMA. MOREOVER, THE HOURS FLOWN AND MAINTENANCE AVAILABILITY RATES ARE ESSENTIAL IN ORDER TO KEEP THE MANUFACTURER INFORMED AS TO WHAT QUALITY OF SPARE PARTS TO MANUFACTURE; TO KEEP HELI-ORIENT INFORMED AS TO PROPER STOCK LEVELS OF PARTS TO MAINTAIN IN SINGAPORE; AND TO ASSIST US IN BUDGETING ADEQUATE FUNDS FOR FUTURE SUPPORT OF THE AIRCRAFT. KNOWING AIRCRAFT LOCATIONS WILL ALSO ASSIST IN JUSTIFYING FUNDS FOR POSSIBLE PROVISION OF GROUND SUPPORT AND OTHER EQUIPMENT NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE AIRCRAFT IN THE FIELD.

AFTER YOUR INITIAL RESPONSE TO THIS LETTER, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR PROVIDING US THIS INFORMATION ON A QUARTERLY BASIS, BEGINNING WITH THE QUARTER THAT ENDS ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1978. END TEXT.

3. PLEASE LET US HAVE THE DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE AND/OR COMMENTS SECRET

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ON THIS LETTER.

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